IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ke the Application of:

WINCKLER

Serial No.: 10/677,188

Filed: October 1, 2003

Atty. File No.: 4933-1

For: "TOWING HITCH ASSEMBLY"

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

) Group Art Unit: 3611) Examiner: Winner, Tony H.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

BY: /////
Craig C. Grosetk

Applicant submits this Amendment and Response to address the Office Action having a mailing date of October 14, 2005. Enclosed herewith is a petition for a two-month extension of time, thereby extending the time period for response from January 14, 2006 to March 14, 2006, as well as a check in the amount of \$250.00 as the fee for such extension.

Also, Applicant encloses a check for \$700.00 as payment for seven (7) additional independent claims. As set forth below, by this Amendment and Response, Applicant has canceled independent Claim 1 and amended eight (8) formerly dependent claims (Claims 3, 5, 6, 8-12 and 14) to be independent claims, thereby resulting in seven (7) independent claims not previously paid for. The check for \$700.00 is payment for the seven (7) additional independent claims. No other fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Amendment and Response.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are shown in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.

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